John Liebenstein Memorial Scholarship

John Liebenstein 1956-1996

John Liebenstein was born in Faribault, Minnesota in 1956. He attended Northfield High School and after graduating in 1974 attended the University of Minnesota for 4 years. Liebenstein decided to pursue Law Enforcement and in two years he received his Law Enforcement degree from Mankato State University in 1992. At the time of his death he was an investigator with Rice County Sheriff’s Department.

John was actively involved in the community and held seats on the Mill Town’s Trail Committee, 4H, the Rice County Fair Board, the Southeast Peace and Police Officer’s Association and the Midwest Gang Investigators Association.

On May 3, 1996, John Liebenstein was killed in the line of duty by a seventeen year old driving a stolen car. Officer Liebenstein’s car was being used for a roadblock and the driver refused to stop. In 1998, Jean Liebenstein established the endowment in honor of her husband; she expressed that the gift was a way for her and their three children to continue to heal.

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